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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Rawson DATE TYPED 3/10/05 HB _____
SHORT TITLE Support President's Malpractice Reform SB SM 20
ANALYST Ford

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
			NFI		

Duplicates HM 13; Relates to HM 7, HJM 67

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 20 makes findings related to the negative impact of increasing medical malpractice awards and malpractice insurance premiums and calls upon the New Mexico congressional delegation to support the President's medical malpractice liability reform proposal.

Significant Issues

The President's medical malpractice liability reform proposal would limit non-economic awards to no more than \$250 thousand. This cap is lower than New Mexico's cap of \$600 thousand. New Mexico law provides two other protections which would not be pre-empted by federal law, including a review by a commission before a claim is brought to court and a time limit in which claims can be filed.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Senate Memorial 20 duplicates House Memorial 13 and relates to House Memorial 7 and House Joint Memorial 67. House Memorial 7 calls on the New Mexico congressional delegation to support the President's class-action reform proposal and medical malpractice liability reform proposal. House Joint Memorial 67 creates a task force to study the causes and effects of increasing medical malpractice insurance rates.

EF/sb